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NOTICE REPAIRED  
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# Is Intelligence Becoming a Bigger Problem Than Stupidity?

Clare Luce says President Carter "has put out one of his eyes and one of his ears" by abolishing the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB).

Edward Bennett Williams says it "was the greatest assemblage of talent I have had the pleasure of sitting with."

Gordon Gray, another of its 16 members, calls it a mistake and recalls that President Kennedy had planned to do without it "but after the Bay of Pigs he felt he had better reestablish it."

Most people don't have a clue as to what PFIAB was all about. It met only six times a year. Its members were never paid for the work they did, only \$35 per diem during each three-day meeting.

## Betty Beale

And everything they said or did was so top secret that even after its abolition May 5 all information will remain classified.

Apparently, the decision to retain it, or do away with it was left up to new CIA director Stansfield Turner. The night of King Hussein's dinner at Anderson House, Hamilton Jordan was asked if the President planned to keep PFIAB and he replied, "I don't know. Ask Mrs. Turner." The latter, who was sitting on his right, then smilingly answered that her husband hadn't decided yet. Within 10 days the 16 board members learned from reading the paper that it no longer existed.

Said one board member who wanted his name omitted, "It was a very graceless way to discharge some great people — a form, machine-typed letter sent out after they heard from the press that they were disbanded."

THE ONLY WOMAN MEMBER, Clare Luce, who may now rent her Watergate apartment since she will have no reason for her regular visits from Honolulu, said, "The President has made a colossal mistake. He has abolished the only intelligence oversight committee that was for him. The congressional oversight committee has a congressional point of view; the Army, Navy and Air Force oversight committees reflect the views of their branches, and we all know the CIA protects its own interests."

"It had men on it who were the repository of wisdom and experience in the intelligence field that he will not be able to duplicate — Edward Teller (atomic scientist), Edwin Land (Polaroid chairman), John Foster (TRW Inc. and energy systems group), Bill Baker (president, Bell Telephone laboratories), Leo Cherne (noted New York economist)."

"Now he will have to reconstitute the board because it performed what nothing else did for the President. It was peanuts — or peanut seeds as far as expenses went." It used a small suite in the EOB consisting of one board room, a little lobby and a file room.

Gordon Gray, a member for 16 years, said that without it "I don't think a president can be sure of wholly independent and objective evaluation of foreign intelligence. This board had no operating responsibility but it constantly monitored all foreign intelligence gathering agencies and asked hard questions about what they were doing, and a lot of people didn't like that. I have been told that Admiral Turner wanted a board of his own but that doesn't really serve the President."

Nelson Rockefeller must be sad too. He had to resign from the board when he became vice president but he told Jimmy Carter that reinstatement on PFIAB was the one job he would like to have.